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U.S. PTO

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents and/or fees referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on December 10, 2003 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10, Mailing Label Number EV332823899US, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Jeffrey Ng



Attorney Docket No.:

NOVLP090/NVLS002888

First Named Inventor: Wenxian Zhu

22278 U.S.P.T.O.
10/733858

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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL (37 CFR. § 1.53(b))

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir: This is a request for filing a patent application under 37 CFR. § 1.53(b) in the name of inventors:
Wenxian Zhu, Jengyi Yu, Siswanto Sutanto, Pinsheng Sun, Jeffrey Chih-Hou Lowe, Waikit Fung, and Tze Wing Poon

For: **BIASED H₂ ETCH PROCESS IN DEPOSITION-ETCH-DEPOSITION GAP FILL**

Assigned to: Novellus Systems, Inc.

Application Elements:

- 22** Pages of Specification, Claims and Abstract
- 06** Sheets of formal Drawings
- Pages Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney

Accompanying Application Parts:

- Do not publish this application. Nonpublication Request is attached.
- Assignment and Assignment Recordation Cover Sheet (recording fee of \$40.00 enclosed)
- 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement by Assignee
- Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449
 - Copies of IDS Citations
- Preliminary Amendment
- Return Receipt Postcard
- Other:

Claim For Foreign Priority

Priority of Application No. filed on
is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119.

The certified copy is enclosed.
 The certified copy has been filed in prior application U.S. Application No.
 The certified copy will follow.

Fee Calculation (37 CFR § 1.16)

PLEASE DEFER FILING FEES AT THIS TIME.

Check No. in the amount of \$ is enclosed.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees beyond the amount enclosed which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 500388 (Order No.).

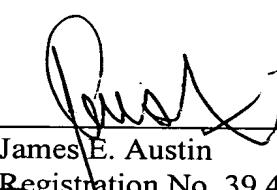
General Authorization for Petition for Extension of Time (37 CFR §1.136)

Applicants hereby make and generally authorize any Petitions for Extensions of Time as may be needed for any subsequent filings. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any extension fees under 37 CFR §1.17 as may be needed to Deposit Account No. 500388 (Order No. NOVLP090).

Please send correspondence to the following address:

Customer Number 022434

022434



James E. Austin
Registration No. 39,489

Date: December 10, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Zhu et al.

Attorney Docket No.:
NOVLP090/NVLS-002888

Application No.: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: December 10, 2003

Group: Not yet assigned

Title: BIASED H₂ ETCH PROCESS IN
DEPOSITION-ETCH-DEPOSITION GAP
FILL**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

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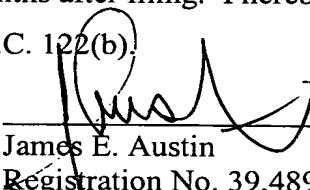
Jeffrey Ng

**NONPUBLICATION REQUEST AND CERTIFICATION
(35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i))**

Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application has not and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen (18) months after filing. I hereby request that the attached application **NOT** be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b).

Date: 12 / 10 / 03

 James E. Austin
 Registration No. 39,489
NOTE:

This request must be signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b) and submitted with the application upon filing.

Applicant may rescind this nonpublication request at any time. If applicant rescinds a request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b), the application will be scheduled for publication at eighteen months from the earliest claimed filing date for which a benefit is claimed.

If applicant subsequently files an application directed to the invention disclosed in the attached application in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications, eighteen months after filing, the applicant **must** notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of such filing within forty-five (45) days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. Failure to do so will result in abandonment of this application (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).